

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-10 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hans (U.S. Pat. No. 2,797,931, hereinafter "Hans") in view of Pletsch (DE 2932440, hereinafter "Pletsch").

At the outset, Applicant notes that claim 1 includes the limitation of "a pair of elastomeric beam side structures." The Examiner has acknowledged that Hans fails to disclose elastic supports configured as elastomeric beam structures. However, the Examiner asserts that "Pletsch teaches a simple compact elastomeric mount assembly comprising beam structures 15/16 that support an axial beam 7 relative to a housing 3." Applicant respectfully disagrees with this assertion. In particular, the device of Pletsch is directed to a "hydromount" (English translation of the German title "Hydrolager") wherein the hydromount defines fluid chambers 8, 9 which communicate with one another through restricted passage 10 as shown in the cross-sectional view of Figure 1. The fluid chambers 8, 9 are bounded by sidewall structures 15 and 16, respectively. The sidewall structures 15, 16 are not beam structures as they may appear in the cross-sectional view of Figure 1. The hydraulic fluid in the fluid chambers 8, 9 act to dampen the vibrations imparted to the hydromount. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the disclosure of Pletsch does not teach or suggest the elastomeric beam structure, as

asserted by the Examiner, but instead discloses an entirely different hydromount system. Applicant submits that the hydromount system of Pletsch is not combinable with the system of Hans to arrive at the present invention as claimed. As such, Applicant believes that the claims are currently in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (734) 354-5445.

Respectfully submitted,

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